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THE FRANKLIN TIMES, LOUISBURG, NORTH CAROLINA

RE - ELECTED

NAT H. AYSCUE, Chairman

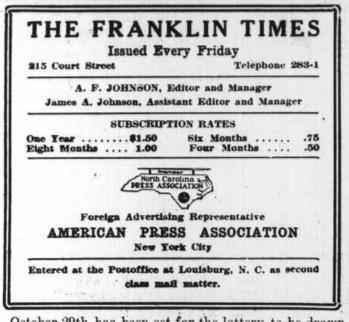
HARDY B. GUPTON

near Wood.

of Norlina.

Louisburg.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1940



October 29th has been set for the lottery to be drawn calling the first contingent of draftees. This is next Tuesday.

If the Louisburg Chamber of Commerce wants to do something of real value to Louisburg, its citizens and visitors, let it get behind the movement to widen the streets on both sides of the monument. 00

Dr. McDermutt, of the Duke Law School, in an address before a meeting of building and loan executives Monday said architecture in homes would soon undergo a great change, that we would be building bomb proof dugouts or shelters in our homes for protection. This to some may be a jest or premature, but it is a serious thought that is going to get attention. What we are most interested in is how can a bomb proof home be madef

WHAT'S THE USE ?

The Grand Jury is one of the most important branches of our judicial system. This is strongly impressed not only on the jury but the public as well, by every Judge holding Criminal Court. This jury is charged with the important powers of saying whether a case may go up to be tried, it is directed to report and put into Court for correction, all matters of law violations coming within the knowledge of or information to either of them within the County and to make investigations of all County property and institutions. Its a great trust, a wonderful power, a most delicate and important duty. They are required to make a report to the Court.

But for the past long number of years we have noticed after all of its work of investigation and making reports, offering suggestions, making demands, and giving directions how to protect the property and public, and the reports received by the Courts with orders that the contents be noted and carried out, there has been a growing tendency to lay it aside without consideration, much less active attention. This tendency has grown to the point where the effect of the report of a Grand Jury, to all intents and purposes, becomes a joke. Very few of its recommendations are ever carried out.

It is a fact that the Grand Juries are composed of good honest, straightforward citizens, who respect their oath and responsibility and represent a fair-cross section of the citizens of the county. Their actions are usually the expression of what other citizens are thinking.

In the last Court the Grand Jury made an extensive and comprehensive report, calling attention to certain things and making certain recommendations. Will their recommendations be given respectful and active consideration or will, or can, the Courts take notice and force

run is strong. They claim that if the State wants to stop gambling it should not license them. This is a strong position but is just as strongly wrong. The fact is the law against slot machines that produce a gamble has not been changed, except as to paying license. The legislature found that there were thousands of machines being operated in the State without license and it had no means of stopping it. It also found that the law as written worked hardships on legitimate slot machines. The old Flannigan law either blocked the machine out or placed the responsibility of proving it illegal on the State, with the result that the State lost a big revenue. The 1939 law reverses that responsibility and places the burden of proving the machine not a gambling device upon the operator and owner. It also gives the State a better opportunity to keep check on all machines and collect license taxes on them. They are no more entitled to operate without paying license than any other business. If they are not gambling devices then they are all right, but the burden of proving them such is upon the operator or owner instead of the State.

If it is right for a town, an individual or an organization, even though it be a school, church, P.T.A, Mission-ary Society or otherwise to conduct a lottery or drawing or operate a punch board for a prize by tickets, which is strongly outlawed both by State and National laws, then it is also right to give the slot machines a free range and the little crap shooter should not be molested. In the eves of the law all such are gambling, regardless of who is running it. If it is wrong to operate a slot machine it is also wrong to operate any of the others. And the higher and more prominent the operators the more damage can be done.

Information coming to the TIMES from a county official is that there were estimated to be from 200 to 300 slot machines in the county with only 83 in 1939 and 21 n 1940 of them paying license tax.

This law, like all others, should be enforced, on the theory that if it is bad it will be repealed, and if its good everybody will like it. No law should be allowed to go unrespected.

Parents would be shocked if they knew how much their children know at the age of five.





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compliance.

Oh, well, in the interpretation of results for the past long period of time "its only the Grand Jury report."

What's the use of making them anyway? 000

GRAND JURY REPORT

In another column will be found the Grand Jury's report for the October term of Court. It rings full and clear on every item and the Jurors are to be congratulated upon their courageous presentation of matters as they found them. They gave the County offices in the Court House, the County Home, the Schools and Prison Camp a clean record and especially complimented the Clerk of Court for the fine manner in which he was having the guardian funds checked and kept. It was noticeable however that they disapproved of the sanitary con-dition of the jail which of course will be corrected and repairs made. Their position on the slot machines was very clear and positive, showing they expected their disappearance to last only through Court. They recommended that the officers see that the law governing them be enforced.

Their recommendation as to the use of partiality in the Welfare Department is well taken, in that their report gave expression to the feelings of many citizens. An investigation will be well. It will show the real situation) if it is properly made, and either correct an unfair practice, if one should exist, or it will vindicate the Welfare Department and its officials, either of which will be of great benefit to the Department.

The Judge was so well pleased with the report that he ordered Certified Copies sent to all departments involved with orders that the suggestions of the Jury be carried out.

But it is a Grand Jury Report. Will it get any greater respect and results than "the many gone on before" is the question in every man's mind.

SLOT MACHINES

The question of the legal operation of a slot machine is a vexing one to the average citizen. The argument of many officers and citizens that the fact that the State licenses them is sufficient to give them the right to be

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